3rd March 1927]

Industries

Encouragement to oil industry in the Presidency.

*204 *Q.*—Mr. C. GOPALA MENON: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the experiments with the Anderson Oil Expeller for extracting oil from groundnuts and other oil-seeds which the Government made some time ago have not been successful and, if so, whether the Government have selected any other suitable machine for the purpose; and

(*b*) whether the Government are considering any proposals to carry on investigations for the purpose or help any private syndicate for the establishment of oil industry in a suitable place in the Presidency?

A.—(*a*) The trials were not very encouraging. But the Department of Industries has in recent years collected a good deal of information on the subject of extraction of, and trade in, vegetable oils in the Madras Presidency and will be glad to assist enquirers with the estimates of machinery and plant required for the establishment of mills for the extraction of oil from the various classes of seeds and to advise in regard to the possibilities of developing a market for the oil produced.

(*b*) No.

Mr. C. GOPALA MENON :—" The answer to (*a*) says that the Government have in recent years collected a lot of information on the subject of the expression of and trade in vegetable oil, and that the experiments with the Anderson oil expeller have not been encouraging. As far as I know, Sir, this machine was tried as an experimental measure during the time of Sir Alfred Chatterton. Now, as the Government have collected a great deal of information, may I know if the hon. the Development Minister will be good enough to carry on the experiments and set a good example to the people of the country by working any other machine of a better type and capacity, for the development of the oil industry?" 11-30 a.m.

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" The question will be considered, Sir."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" Apart from the information which is said to be available with the department, may I ask the hon. Minister whether he has taken pains to find out whether any private oil factory is being run on a commercial scale, independently?"

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" I have not found out, Sir." In-audi-able.

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" Is it not a much better thing to find out how private people are doing the business in a commercial way instead of repeating and attempting experiments as with fruits in the Fruit Preserving Institute at Coonoor?"

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" I do not know, Sir, how the fruit business comes in here. So far as this business is concerned, I am not aware of anybody working machines or factories."

Mr. L. K. TULASIRAM :—" Will the hon. Minister publish as a pamphlet all the information collected on this question of extraction of oil by several

methods, and so utilize the information collected by Government in giving it to the people who may profit by it?"

The hon. Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—"Nothing has been done, Sir, so far as the department is concerned practically for the last ten years. The bulletins on the subject are ten years old and I do not think it will be of any advantage to republish that information which is now out of date."

Mr. L. K. Tulasiram :—"What I say is this. Seeing that a large quantity of groundnut oil and other oils are being used in dyeing and other industries, will the hon. the Minister be pleased to collect all the available information and publish it in a pamphlet form?"

The hon. Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—"The matter will be considered, Sir."

Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar :—"Are we to understand that no monographs by any individual have been published?"

The hon. Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—"I already said, Sir, that two bulletins were published, but there is no use in republishing now in pamphlet form, information which was published so long ago, as at the present time presumably much progress has been made in the direction of the extraction of oil."

Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar :—"Will the hon. the Minister see that he publishes a monograph at least on the subject of oil industry?"

The hon. Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—"I have already said that I would consider how far further progress has been made in this line, and if any information is obtained, I shall make it available to the House."

Mr. J. A. Saldanha :—"May I enquire why any other machinery than the Anderson oil expeller has not been used and tried for the purpose of extracting oil? It is well known that many kinds of oil-seeds are exported from India to Europe and they come back to us in the shape of oils extracted by means of various kinds of machinery. I want to know why other machinery than this Anderson oil expeller has not been tried?"

The hon. Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—"I have already said, Sir, that this experiment had been dropped ten years ago and the question of continuing or reviving that experiment is under consideration; and I am unable to add anything further to the answer I already gave."

Mr. P. Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu :—"Is such a scheme under consideration for the past ten years, Sir?"

The hon. Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—"No, no. It was dropped ten years ago."

Public Works

Construction of the bridges at Kattupazha and Irritti.

*205 Q.—Mr. J. A. Saldanha: With reference to my question No. 2231, dated 16th July 1926, will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) what progress has been made with the projected bridges at Kattupazha and Irritti and if there has been delay, the reasons for it;